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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Hiroshi SATOH et al.  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
DETECTING TRAFFIC LANE  
MARK FOR AUTOMOTIVE  
VEHICLE  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: DEC 20 2001  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

The relevance of Document A5 is described in the present specification. An English translation of Document A5 is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). An English language abstract is attached.


Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date DEC 20 2001

By 

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22428

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Form PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 040679-1415		SERIAL NO. Unassigned		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>  <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT Hiroshi SATOH et al.				
				FILING DATE December 20, 2001		GROUP ART UNIT Unassigned		
<b>U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER</b>								
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	FILING DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	A1	09/946,925	09/06/2001	SATOH et al.			340/436	
	A2	09/963,490	09/27/2001	FURUSHO			382/104	
	A3	09/987,258	11/14/2001	AKUTAGAWA			" "	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	A4	6,091,833	07/18/2000	Yasui et al.	382	104		
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A5	8-249597	09/27/1996	Japan				Abst.
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
<b>EXAMINER</b>					<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			
* <b>EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								